

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In application of

McGregor, et al

Examiner: Gesesse, T.

Serial No: 08/749,721

Group Art: 2746

Filed: 15 November 1996

For: MOBILE PHONE WITH INTERNAL
ACCOUNTING

Atty Dkt: 12765

BOX AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT and CERTIFICATE

In a Supplementary European Search Report, the European Patent Office cited as relevant a PCT publication, that has not been considered by the Examiner in the pending application:

WO 94/28670, Nokia Telecommunications OY, published 8 December 1994, discloses a method for indicating the charge of a call being placed in a communication network. The method is summarized on page 2, lines 23-30 as follows;

a calling subscriber sends to a fixed network a call set-up request comprising the number of a called subscriber,

the fixed network estimates the charge or charge level of the call to be set up in advance on the basis of the location of the calling subscriber

and/or the called subscriber, the fixed network sends information on the estimated charge or charge level of the call to the subscriber who will be charged for the call.

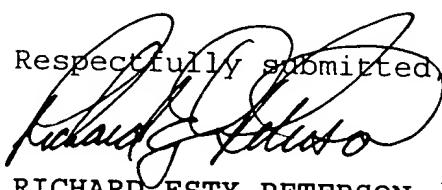
At page 4, lines 26-33 it is suggested that a blocking function can be activated by the fixed network to block certain calls if the estimated call charge or the charge level is not within the range of charges set for the subscriber. Notably in the Nokia reference all call charge calculations are performed at the fixed network (base station) and communicated to the mobile unit on request.

This of course differs from the internal accounting system of applicants' mobile unit which avoids the repeated message session with the base station. Also, the Nokia does not describe a prepaid or debit system for mobile phone units, or how to implement such system into a network.

The European Search Report also included reference to Zicker et al, Patent No. 5,220,593 issued June 15, 1993. This issued as a continuation of an application issuing as Zicker et al, Patent No. 5,114,649, issued Sept. 1, 1992, previously considered by the Examiner.

The references listed herein are cumulative to those already considered by the Examiner. The references relate to switch based accounting and do not affect the Examiner's determination of allowability of the applicants' claims.

The undersigned states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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